

Confined Space Operations

Scope: Sacramento Regional Fire Departments

Policy Contact

Sacramento Regional Operations Group

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References

- US Department of Labor. 2011. Code of Federal Regulations. Title 29. Permit-Required Confined Space
- Department of Industrial Relations. 2015. *California Code of Regulations*. Title 8. General Industry Safety Orders #5156, 5157 and 5158
- Office of the State Fire Marshal. California State Fire Training. Confined Space Rescue Technician. 2008
- National Fire Protection Association 1670. Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue. 2014
- National Fire Protection Association 1006. Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications. 2013

01. Guideline

Establish operational procedures for operating in a permit-required confined space

02. Definition

2.1 Confined Space

Defined by law as an area that meets all of the following criteria:

- Large enough for employees to physically enter and perform assigned work
- Has limited or restricted entry/egress
- Not designed for continuous employee occupancy

2.2 Permit-Required Confined Space

Last Reviewed: 8/2018

Guideline: Confined Space Operations

Defined by law as area that meets the criteria of a confined space with the addition of any one of the following:

- Presence or potential presence hazardous atmosphere
- Presence of engulfment hazard
- Container shaped such that entrants may be trapped/asphyxiated and tapers to a smaller cross-section
- Possesses other recognized serious health and/or safety hazards

03. Training Requirements

- Confined Space Awareness Level compliant with NFPA 1670
- Adequate personnel and equipment to affect a permit-required confined space rescue as defined in the Urban Search and Rescue Operational System Description ICS-USAR-120-1
- Members filling positions of entry group supervisor, attendant or entrant must possess a SFT FSTEP certificate as a Confined Space Technician and have documented participation in an annual confined space drill as one of the four mandated positions (entry group supervisor, attendant, entrant and/or back up)

04. Procedures

4.1 First-Due Actions

The following guidelines are to be used for strategic and tactical priorities during confined space rescue operations:

- Establish command
- Implement site control and scene management [NFPA 1670 7.2.4(7)]
- Recognize potential for a confined space rescue and request additional resources as needed [NFPA 1670 7.2.4(2)]
- Initiate contact and establish communications with victims when possible [NFPA 1670 7.2.4(3)]
- Recognize and identify the hazards associated with non-entry confined space emergencies [NFPA 1670 7.2.4(3)]
- Perform non-entry retrieval [NFPA 1670 7.2.4(5)]
- Begin atmospheric monitoring when available
- Increase survivability profile, i.e. create a micro-climate around victim; ventilate area, etc.

4.2 Rescue Company Operations

Check in with command and confirm/determine whether operational strategy is one of rescue or recovery. If a confined space entry is performed the following guidelines shall be followed:

- Complete a confined-entry permit (Regional Confined Space Entry Permit)
- Initiate pre-entry atmospheric monitoring and ventilation as soon as possible
- Assess and improve survivability profile
- Secure all energy sources via lock-out/tag-out prior to entry

Guideline: Confined Space Operations

- Establish primary and secondary communication systems
- Fill the following positions as soon as possible: rescue/entry group supervisor, assistant safety officer (rescue), air supply group, etc.
- Conduct a pre-entry safety briefing prior to confined space entry
- Safety briefings should at minimum include: rescue/ entry group supervisor, safety officer, attendant, entrant and back-up entrant

4.3 PPE

Individual departments as well as incident specific hazards may dictate the use of safety gear beyond the minimum. The minimum required PPE shall be:

- Helmet
- Long sleeve shirt and pants
- Work gloves
- Steel-toe/ shank boots

Sacramento Regional Fire Departments Confined Space Entry Permit

	INCIDENT INFORMATION										
	START DATE:	START TIME:		TERMINATION DATE:		TERMINATION TIME:					
	INCIDENT#: LOCATION		N:	1							
	CONTACT PERSON:			SPACE USED FOR:							
F	NUMBER OF VICTIMS:			TIME LAST SEEN:							
Ż	HAZARDS IN SPACE										
1E	ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICAL / MEC					PHYSIOLOGICAL					
ASSESSMENT	Oxygen Deficient Engulfment		Corro			□ Fatigue					
ASS	Oxygen Enrichment	Entrapment		🗌 Tempe	erature	☐ High Noise Levels					
				🗌 Biologi	cal						
				🗌 Radiati	on						
	RESCUE RECOVERY (Acceptable Entry Conditions For Recovery 19.5 – 23.5% 02 / < 10% LEL / < 10 PPM H2S / < 25 PPM CO)										
			HAZARD	CONTROL							
	VENTILATION	ELECTRICAL	MECHANI	CAL	PIPES / DUCTS	IGNITION PREVENTION					
	Natural	Lock-Out /			Blanking /						
		Tag-Out	Tag-O		Blinding						
	Exhaust	Disconnect	Discon	inect	Disconnect	L Intrinsically Safe					
		PNEUMATIC	Block (Open	HYDRAULIC	PHYSIOLOGICAL					
	Local Supply	Lock-Out /	Release	e Stored	Lock-Out /	Medical					
	Local Exhaust	Tag-Out	Energy		Tag-Out	Monitoring					
RY	Combination	Disconnect			Disconnect						
		E	QUIPMEN	F REQUIRE	D						
EN	PPE	COMMUNICATION X 2	ENTRY AN EXTRICAT	ID	LIGHTING X 2	VICTIM PACKAGING					
PRE-ENT	□ Flash Protection	Flash Protection			Light Stick	Backboard					
Ъ	Chemical	└ Voice	Atmos Atmos	•	🗌 Headlamp						
	Protection	U Visual / Hand	D PASS		Hand Light						
		Tapping /		Virectional							
	RESIPATORY	Rapping / OATH			Cord Light	Halfback					
	PROTECTION	L Rope / OATH	🛛 🖾 Rope N	1/A	Safety /	□ Harness					
	SCBA	Radio	U Winch		Retrieval						
	🗆 SABA	Channel: Hardwire	□ Harnes	SS	U Wristlets	Respiratory Protection					

ENTEN OBOUN			POSITIONS							
ENTRY GROUI	P SUPERVISO	R:								
ATTENDANT:										
Atmospheric Monitor:										
Ventilation:										
Lock-Out / Tag-Out: Key Holder:										
Air Supply Officer:										
Rigging Team Leader:										
Communications:										
Incident Comman	der:									
Safety Officer:										
Medical Group Su	pervisor:									
Hazardous Materi		visor:								
	IN	OUT								
Entrant #I:		001								
Entrant #2:										
Entrant #3:										
Entrant #4:										
Back-up #I:										
Back-up #2:										
Back-up #3:										
Back-up #4:										
ATMOSPHERIC MONITORING READINGS (TAKEN AT 4 FOOT INTERVALS VERTICALLY)										
		O2	LEL	H ₂ S						
		02		H23	0					
TIME	LEVEL	19.5 – 23.5%	<10%	<10 PPM	CO <25 PPM	INITIALS				
TIME	LEVEL					INITIALS				
TIME	LEVEL					INITIALS				
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TIME		19.5 – 23.5%		<10 PPM						



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